



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Borge KRINGELUM et al.

Title:

METHOD FOR SUPPLY OF

STARTER CULTURES HAVING A

CONSISTENT QUALITY

Appl. No.:

09/813,292

Filing Date: 03/21/2001

Examiner:

Ruth A. Davis

Art Unit:

1651

with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. December 19, 2002 EV055899084US (Date of Deposit) (Express Mail Label Number) Jeanne M. Johnson (Printed Name)

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AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents Box AF Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Rejection dated July 19, 2002, concerning the above-referenced patent application. Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely. Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, please substitute for original claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11, the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Marked Up Version Showing Changes Made."

- (Twice Amended) A method of supplying starter cultures of consistent quality, 1. the method comprising the steps of:
- (i) providing a stock inoculum material comprising a concentrate of starter culture organism cells,